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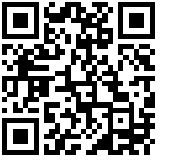

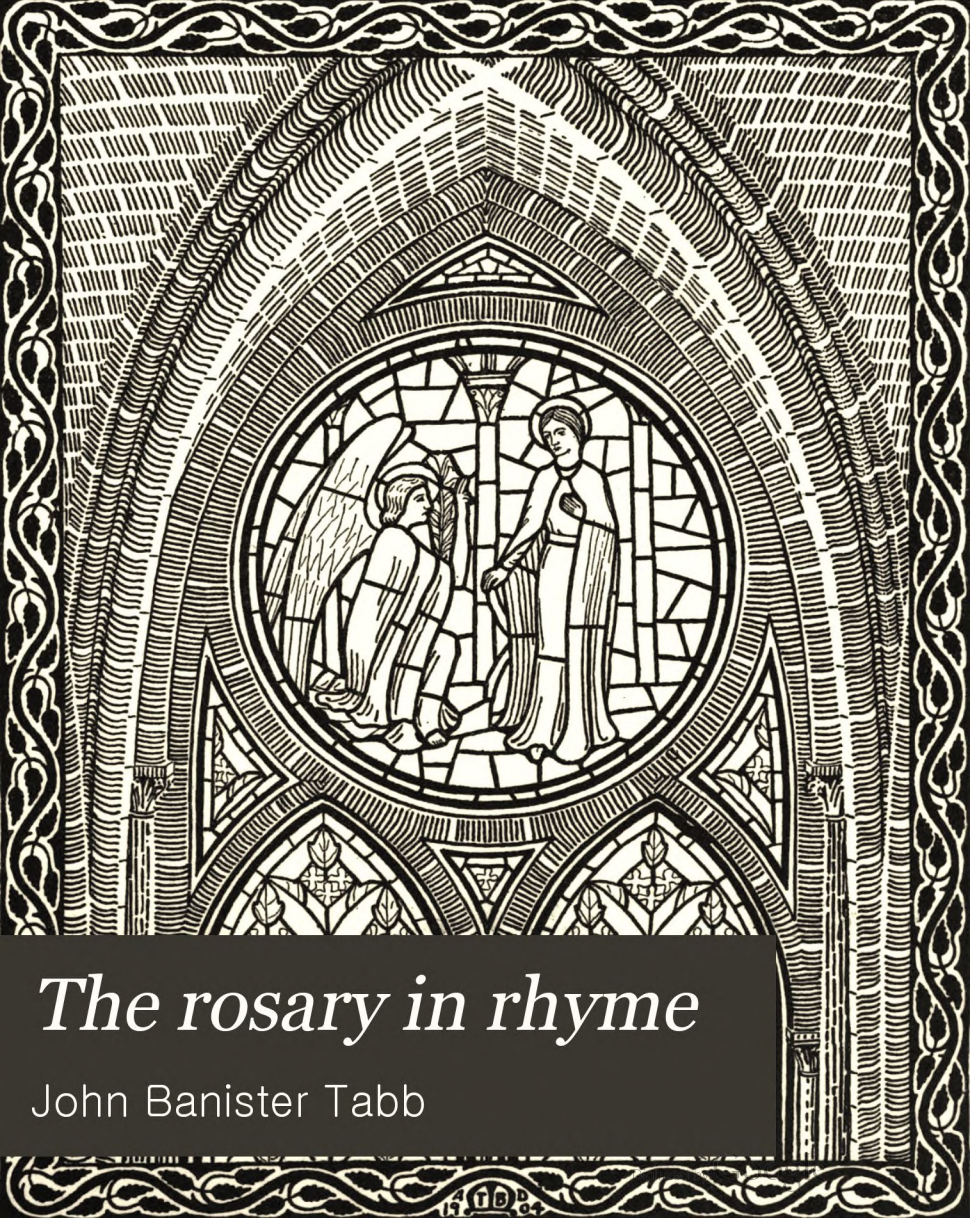

The rosary in rhyme

John Banister Tabb

Columbia University
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THE ROSARY IN RHYME

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TO THE
RIGHT REVEREND
ALFRED · A · CURTIS · D · D ·
WITH THE
LOVE AND VENERATION
OF HIS
FIRST SON IN CHRIST

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THE JOYOUS MYSTERIES

I. THE ANNUNCIATION

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I

THE ANNUNCIATION

CCUSTOMED in the highest heights to be,
The Angel bowed in awe,
As if, amazed before Humility,
A deeper heaven he saw.

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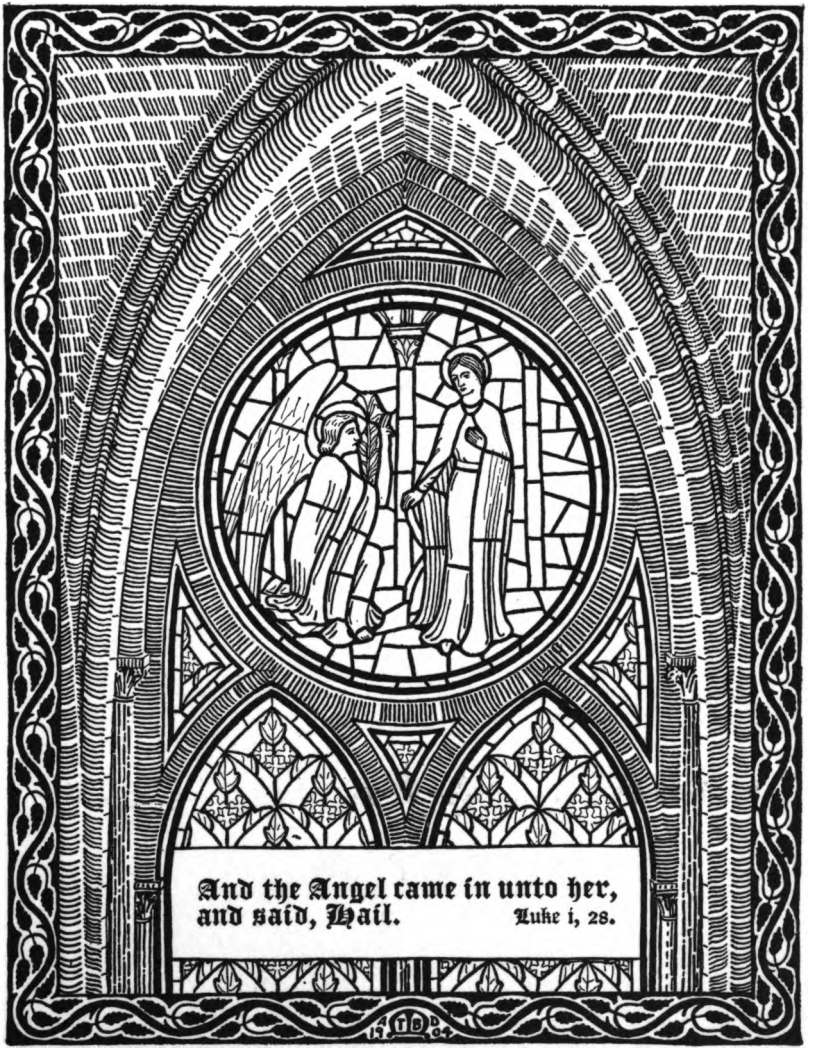

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II. THE VISITATION

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THE VISITATION

IS cloistered God the unborn messenger
Exulting, leaped to hear:
His mother in the Mother of her Lord
Interpreting the Word.

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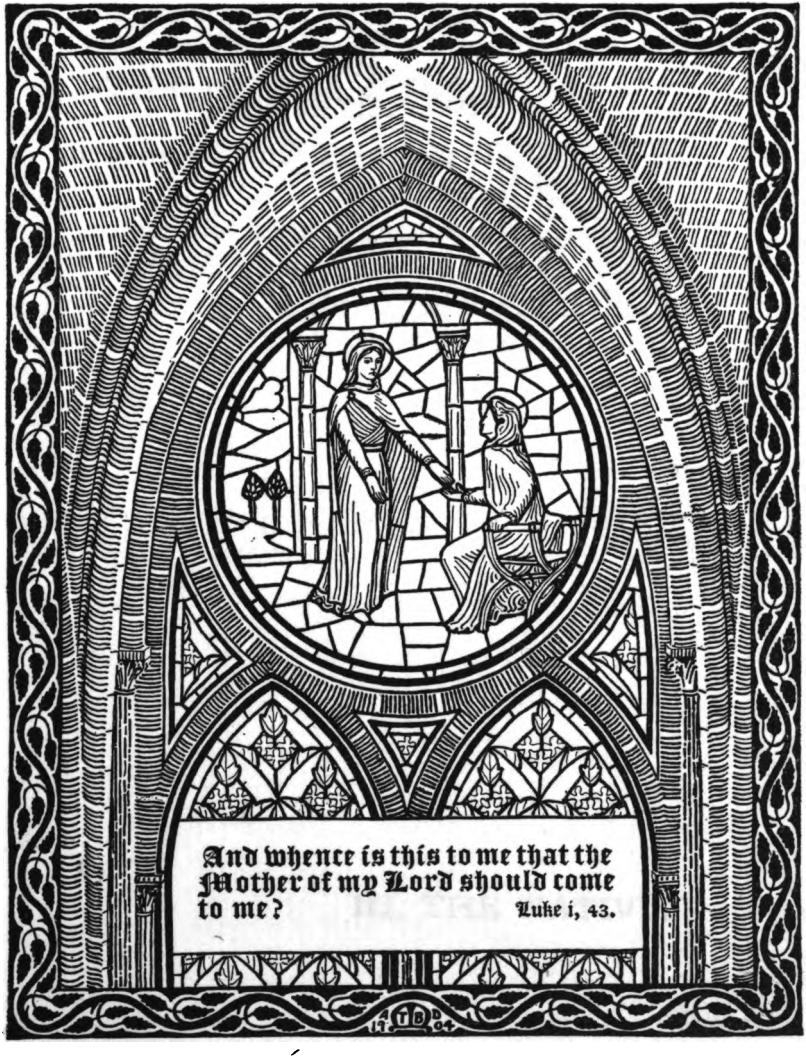

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III. THE NATIVITY

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THE NATIVITY

O small that lesser lowliness
Must bow to worship or caress:
So great that heaven itself to know
Love's majesty must look below.

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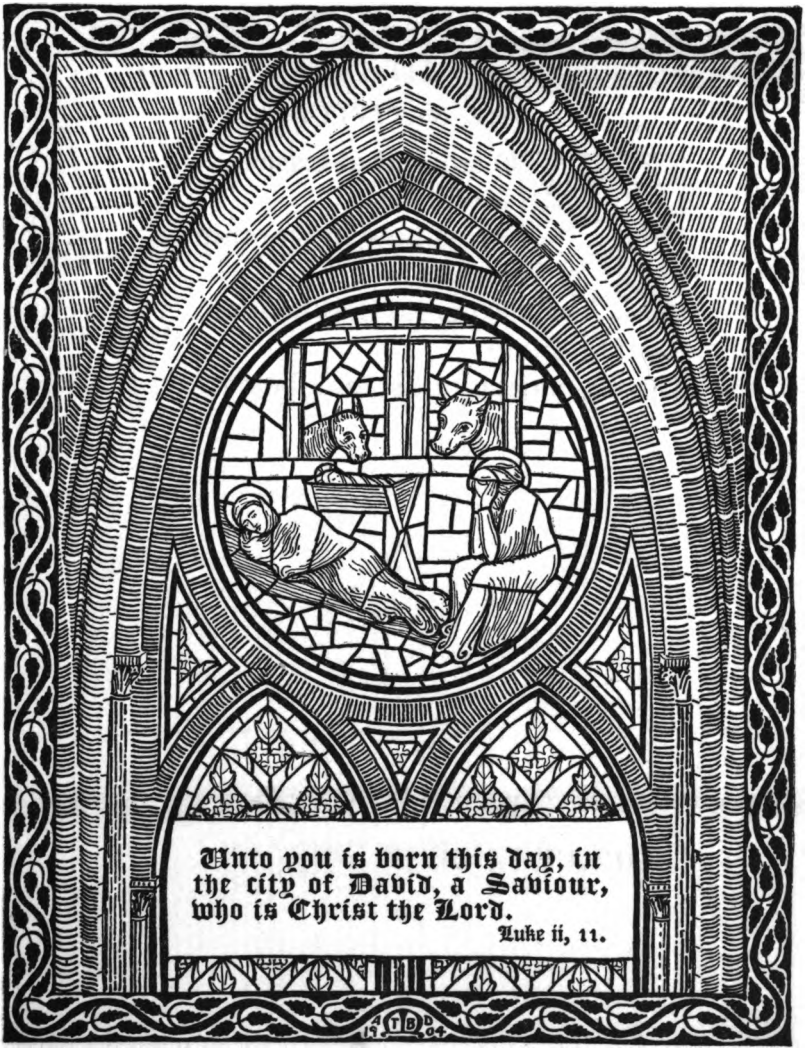

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IV. THE PRESENTATION

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THE PRESENTATION

HERE, woman, is thine offering —
The debt of law and love?
" My Babe a tender nestling is,
And I the Mother-dove."

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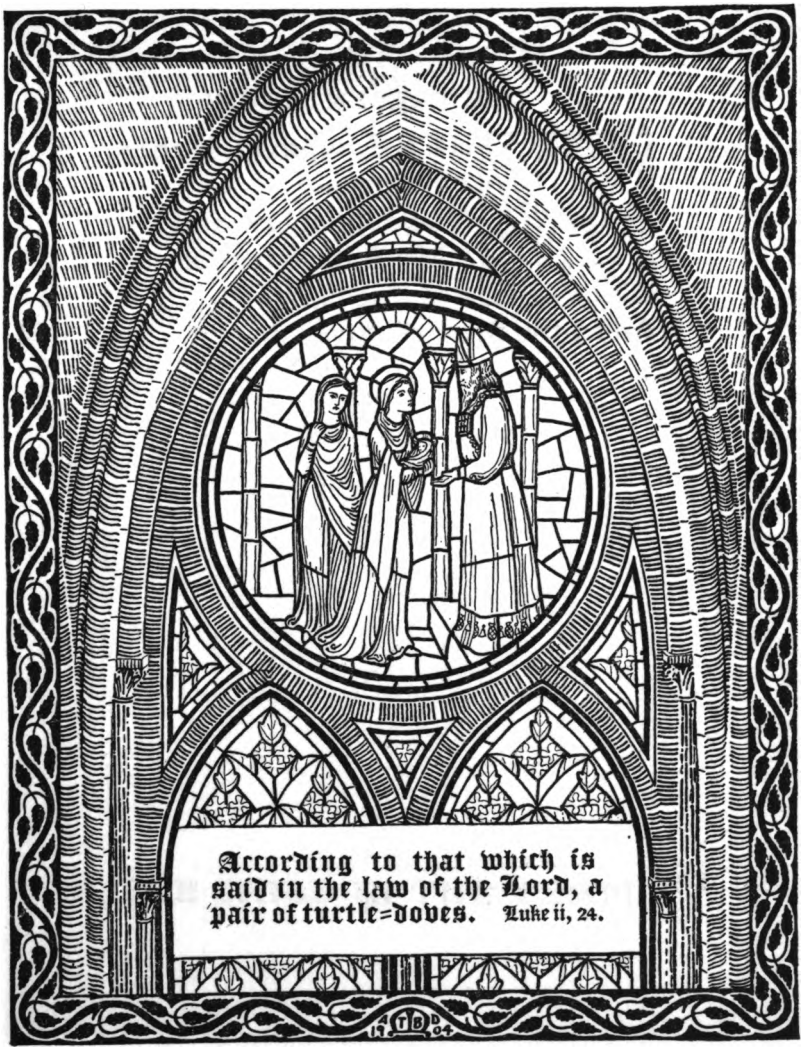

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V. THE CHILD IN THE TEMPLE

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V

THE CHILD IN THE TEMPLE

MONG the sages while
He sat,
And they delighted heard,
None knew the Child they
wondered at,
Was God's Eternal Word.

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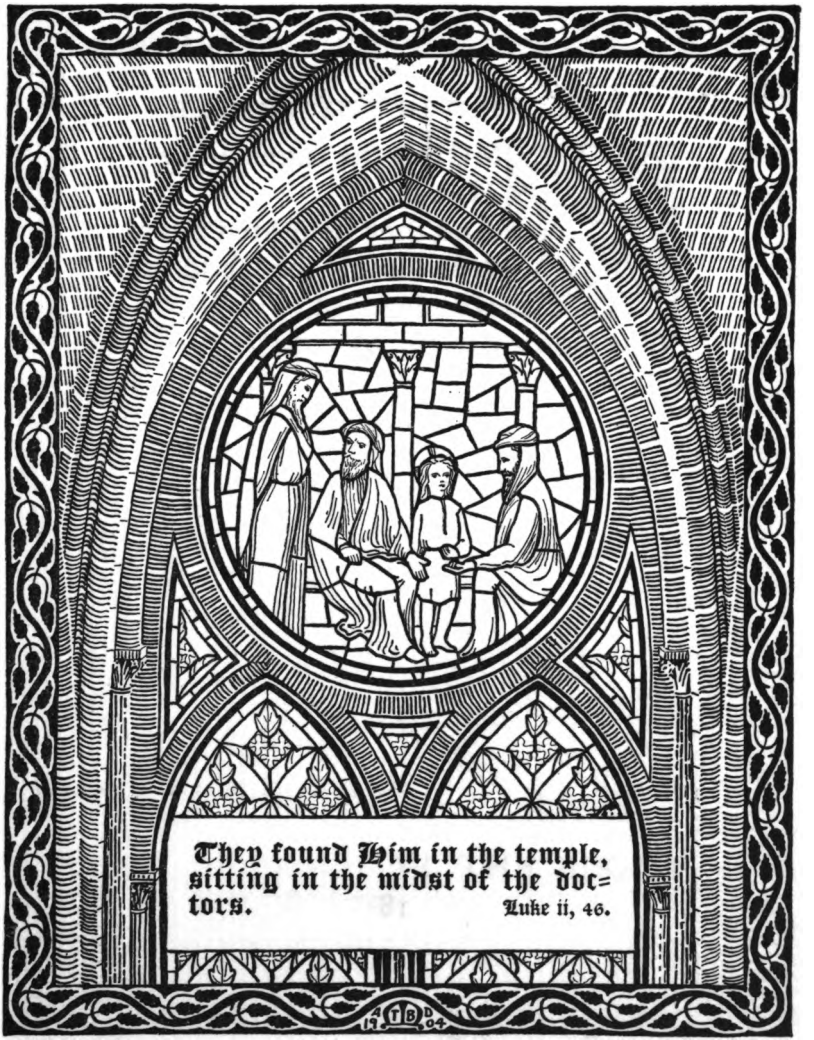

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VI. THE AGONY

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VI

THE AGONY

ERE, where with bloody sweat
The ground is wet,
The brutal thorn is bred
To crown His head: —
Dost thou, avenging sod,
Curse home thy God?

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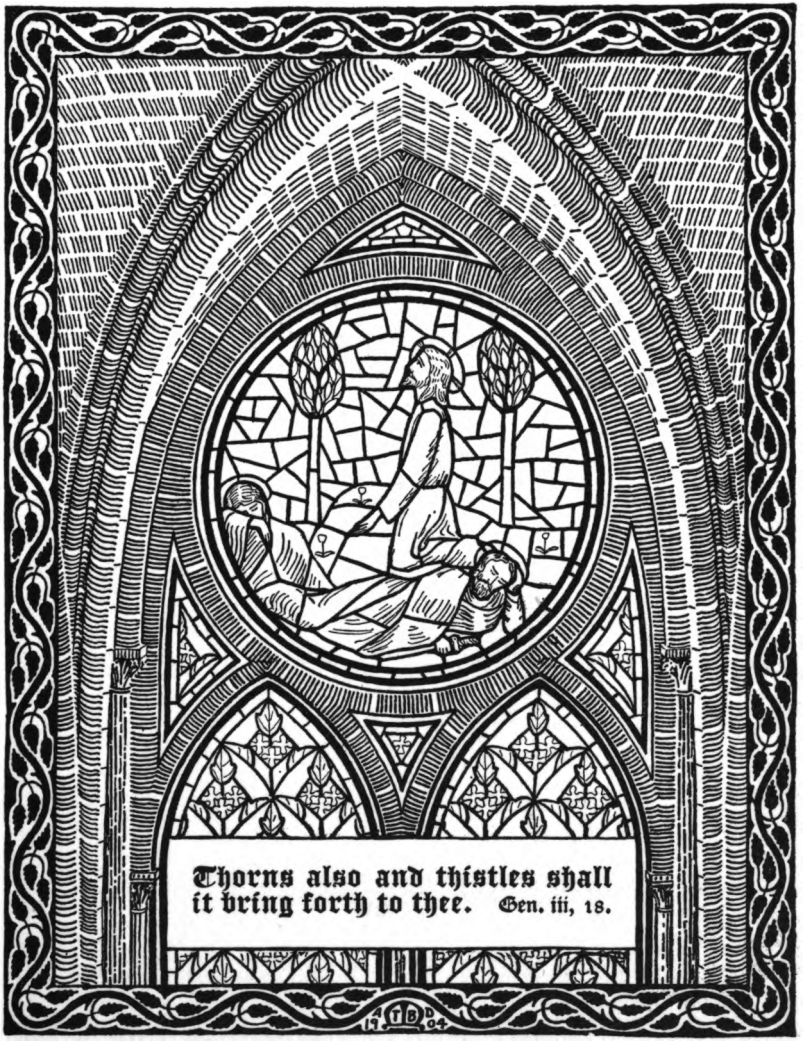

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THE DOLOROUS MYSTERIES

VII. THE CROWN OF THORNS

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VII

THE CROWN OF THORNS

H, wherefore were we torn,
Reluctant, from the bough,
To be a mark of scorn
Upon this bleeding Brow?
O fruit of the Forbidden Tree,
Behold the ripened penalty!

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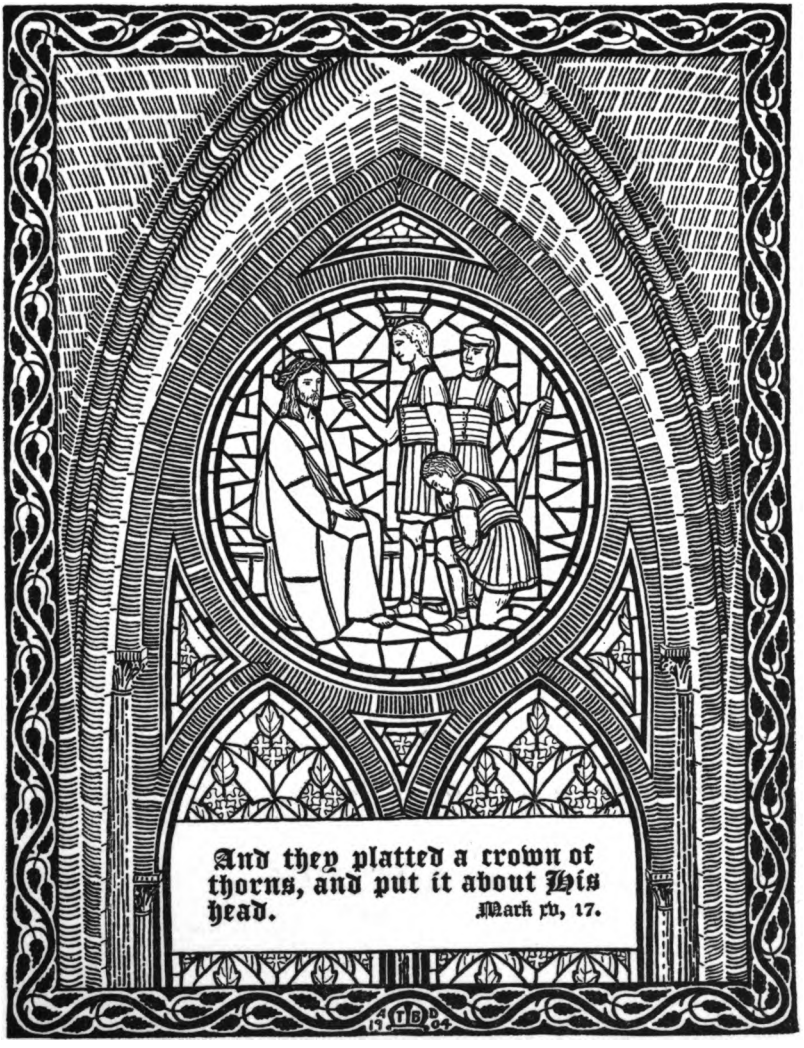

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VIII. THE SCOURGING

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THE SCOURGING

THONGS, for thirst
Of fiends accurst,
Ye quaffed the crimson flood!
Ah, would that we
Who wound, as ye
Were guiltless of His blood!

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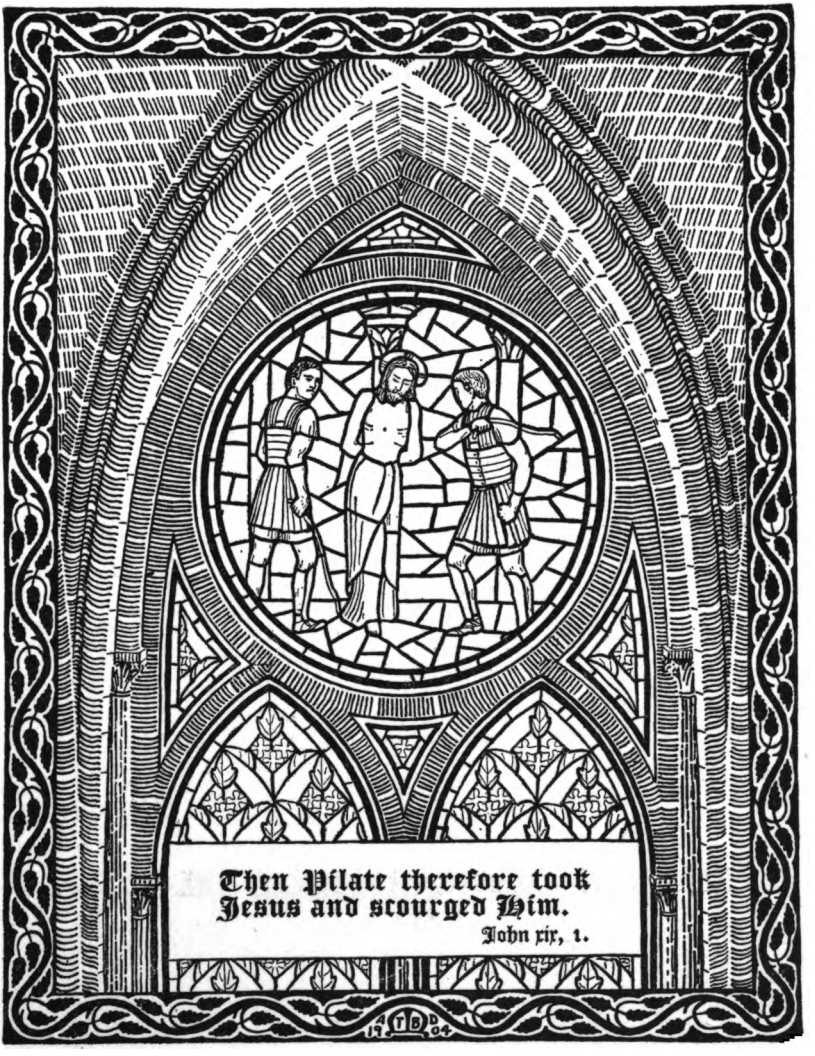

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THE DOLOROUS MYSTERIES

IX. CARRYING THE CROSS

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IX

CARRYING THE CROSS

HEN Christ went up to
Calvary,
His load upon Him laid,
Each tree unto its neighbor
tree
In awful silence said,
"Behold, the Gardener is He
Of Eden and Gethsemane!"

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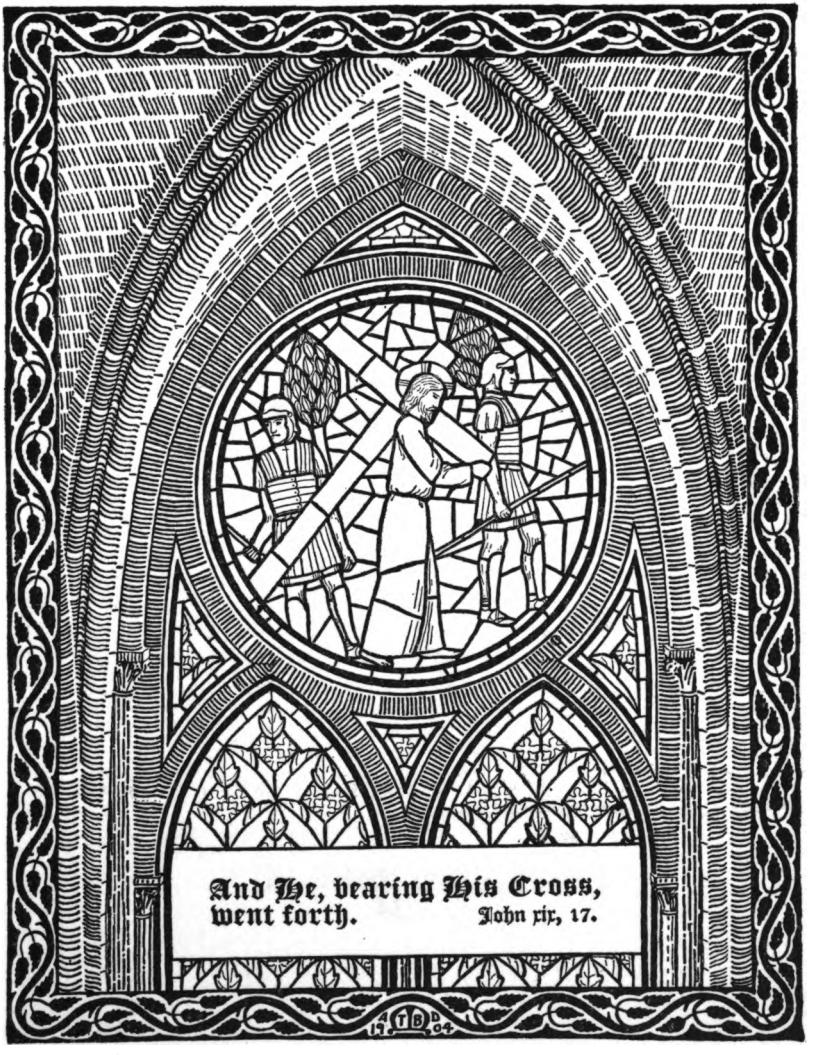

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THE DOLOROUS MYSTERIES

X. THE CRUCIFIXION

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X

THE CRUCIFIXION

HY, O my God, hast Thou forsaken me?
Not so my Mother; for behold and see
She steadfast stands. O Father, shall it be
That she abides when Thou forsakest me?

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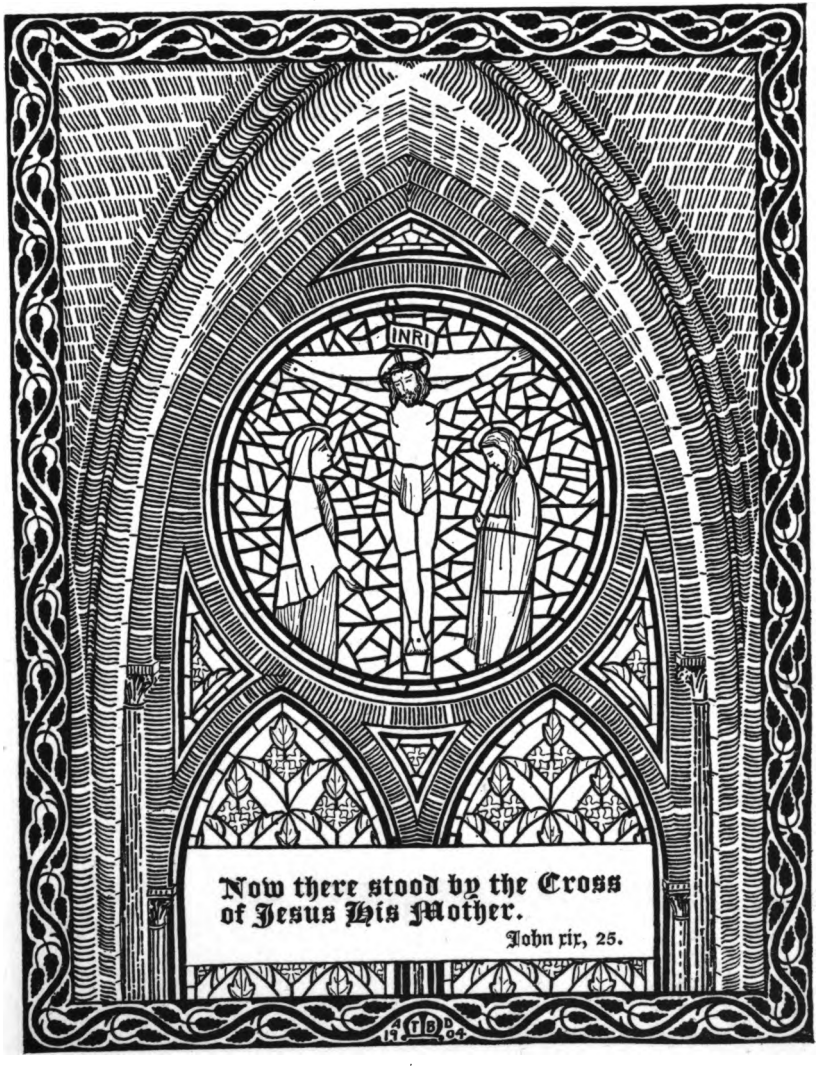

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THE GLORIOUS MYSTERIES

XI. THE RESURRECTION

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XI

THE RESURRECTION

EHOLD, the night of sorrow gone,
Like Magdalene the tender Dawn
Goes forth with love's anointing sweet,
To kiss again the Master's feet.

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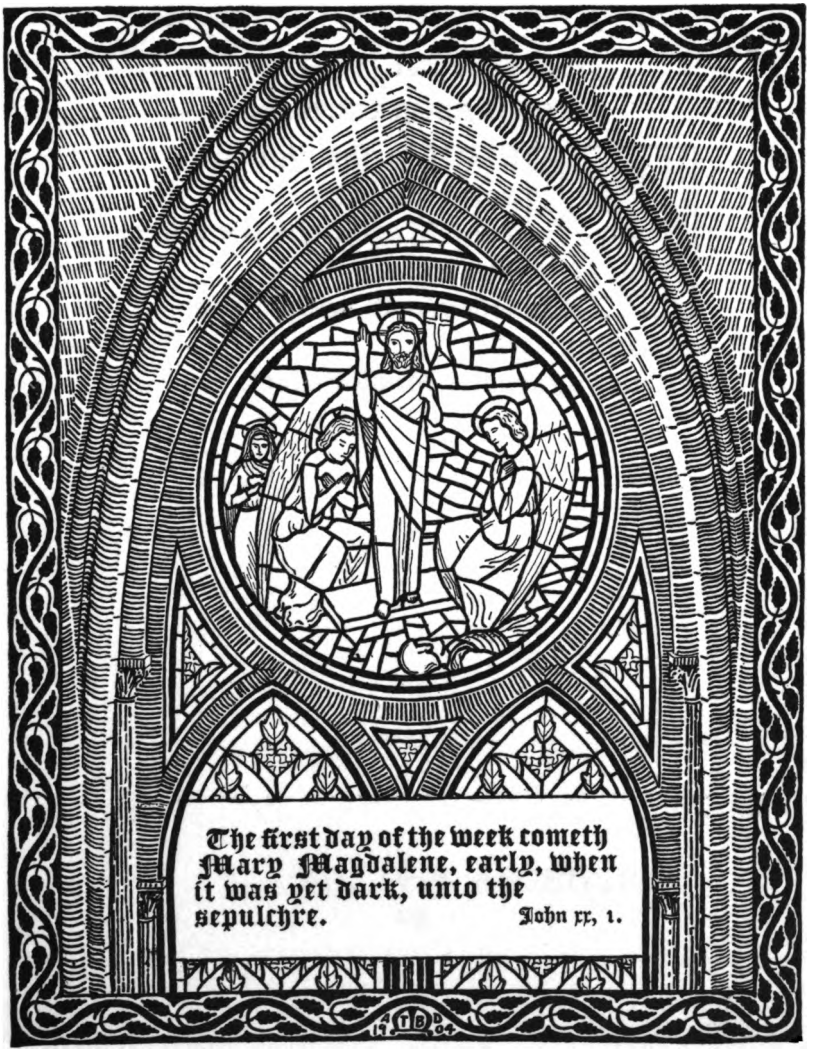

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XII. THE ASCENSION

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XII

THE ASCENSION

N Sinai did the cloud,
His glory shroud;
And in the Holy Place
It hid His face.
As now He goes, so shall ye see
Him come; — a cloud His canopy.

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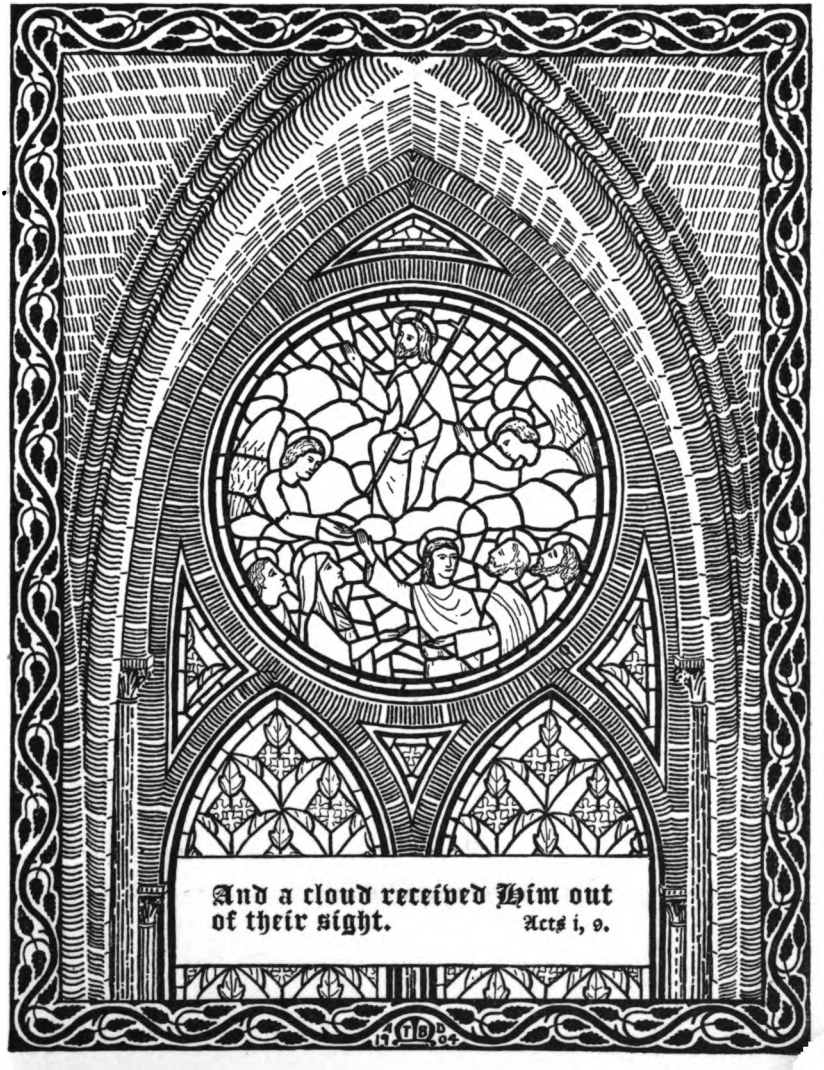

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XIII. PENTECOST

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XIII

PENTECOST

ISCORD — the curse of
Babel — done,
The world, divided, hears
as one
All hearts revealing
each to each,
The new-found harmony of speech.

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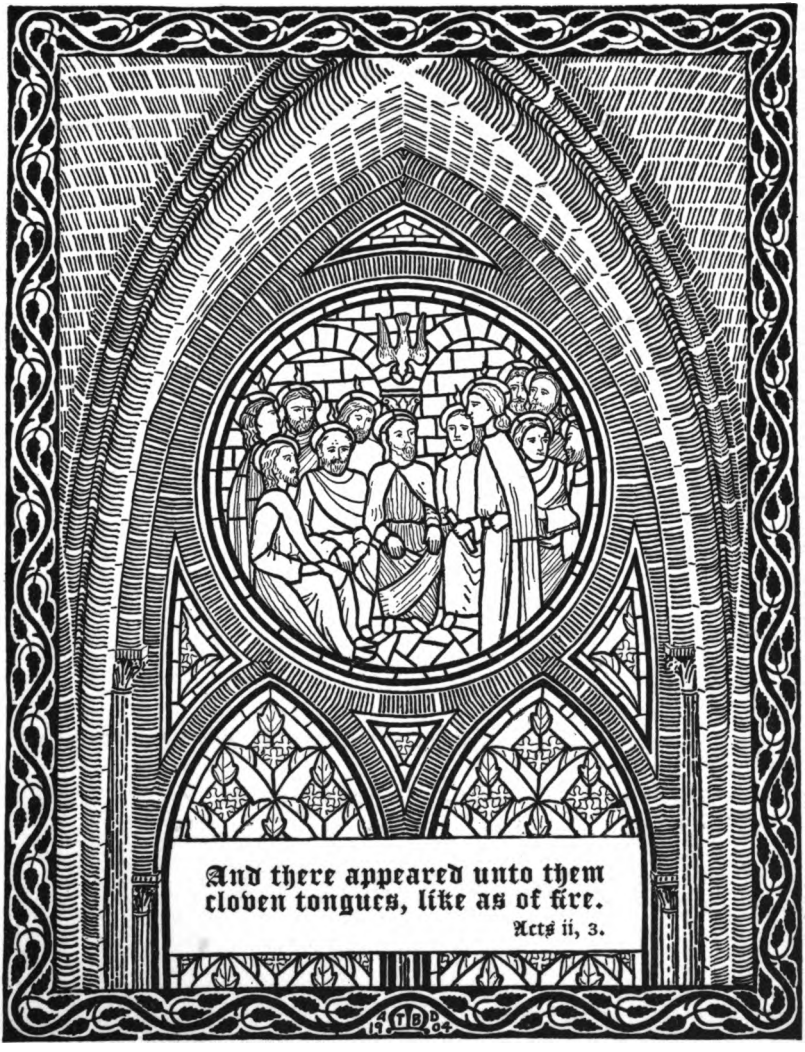

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XIV. THE ASSUMPTION

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THE ASSUMPTION

OR Bethlehem nor Nazareth
Apart from Mary's care,
Nor heaven itself a home for Him
Were not His Mother there.

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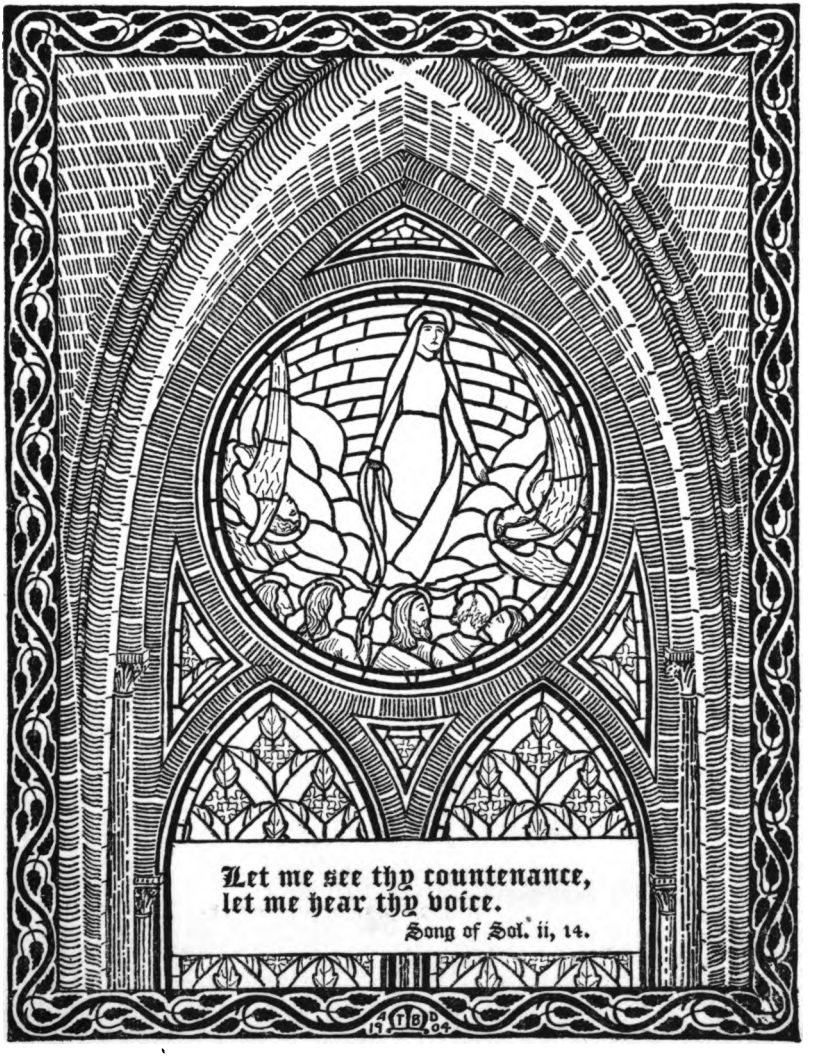

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XV. THE CORONATION

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XV

THE CORONATION OF MARY

HEE, Mother-Queen of
Heaven,
He crowned,
And not for love alone;
For in thy bosom first
He found
The life-spring of His own.

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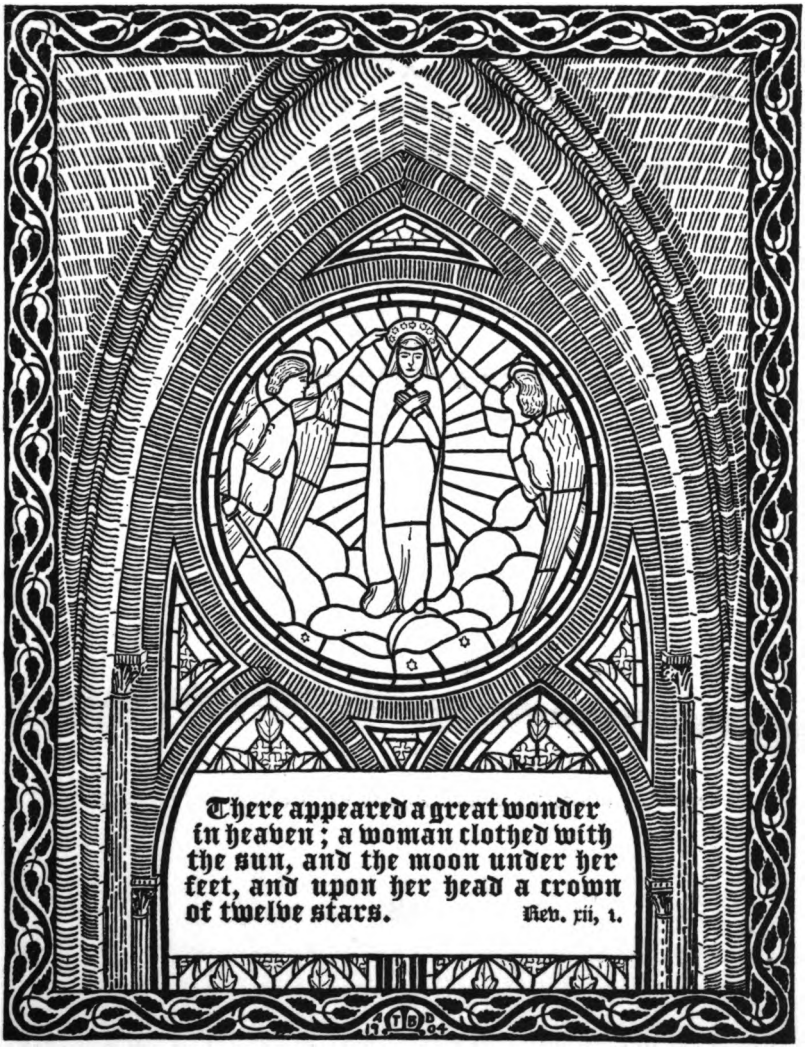
There appeared a great wonder in heaven; a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars. Rev. xii, 1.

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